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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/043,154	01/14/2002	Nobuya Harano	2001P005978	5070
30743	7590	07/27/2004	EXAMINER	
WHITHAM, CURTIS & CHRISTOFFERSON, P.C. 11491 SUNSET HILLS ROAD SUITE 340 RESTON, VA 20190			WEST, LEWIS G	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		7
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/043,154	HARANO, NOBUYA
	Examiner Lewis G. West	Art Unit 2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 May 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 May 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 5-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mizoguchi (US 6,678,532).

Regarding claim 1, Mizoguchi discloses a portable radio terminal device for radio communication by using an antenna provided in a housing capable of being held by one hand, wherein: a first antenna disposed in a lower part of the housing and a second antenna disposed in an upper part of the housing for radio communication, said first antenna and said second antenna being selectively switched for use, a sensor for sensing when the first antenna is covered and outputting a detection signal; and means for switching between said first antenna and said second antenna for use based on said detection signal. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8)

Regarding claim 3, Mizoguchi discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the first or the second antenna is predetermined to be a normally used antenna. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8)

Regarding claim 5, Mizoguchi discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 4, wherein the sensor is a touch sensor. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8)

Regarding claim 7, Mizoguchi discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 4, wherein a plurality of sensors are used to sense the covering of the antenna. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8)

Regarding claim 8, Mizoguchi discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 4, wherein the sensor is an impedance change detecting means for detecting a change in the impedance of the antenna. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8)

4. Claims 9, 11, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Werling (US 6,456,856 B1).

Regarding claim 9, Werling discloses a portable radio terminal device comprising: a plurality of transmission antennas separately provided; a detector for detecting the deterioration of an antenna characteristic; and a switch for switching, on the basis of the detected result, the operation from the deteriorated transmission antenna to a different transmission antenna. (Col. 3 line 34-col. 4 line 24)

Regarding claim 11, Werling discloses to claim 9, wherein the detector detects the antenna at least a part of which is covered with a hand or is touched with a head. (Col. 4 lines 4-10)

Regarding claim 12, Werling discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 9, wherein the detector is a touch sensor for detecting the touch of hand or head. (col. 4 lines 4-10)

Regarding claim 15, Werling discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of detectors is provided. (Col. 2 lines 17-24)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizoguchi (US 6,678,532) in view of Narayanaswamy (US 5,905,467).

Regarding claim 2, Mizoguchi discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the housing is of a foldable type comprising an upper and a lower housing hinged together by a hinge part, the first and second antennas are disposed in the lower and upper housings, respectively. Narayanaswamy discloses a portable radio terminal device with switchable antennas wherein the device is a foldable type including a first housing provided with a first antenna and a second housing provided with a second antenna which are hinged together by a hinge part, and further discloses that the respective antennas may both be internal. (Col. 2 line 31-col. 3 line 65) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at

the time of the invention to have internal antennae in separate housing sections, to aid in antenna diversity for communication.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizoguchi (US 6,678,532) in view of Bowen (US 5,224,151).

Regarding claim 6, Mizoguchi discloses a radiotelephone according to claim 1, but does not expressly disclose an optical sensor. Bowen discloses a mobile radiotelephone wherein a sensor for detecting human proximity, especially the human head (see Figures 2-6) in order to change functional operation of the phone. (Col. 2 lines 10-61) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Werling to use an optical sensor to detect human proximity so that harmful radiation may be directed away from said tissue, and for optimum antenna use to prevent degradation and prevent the unnecessary use of power that can be saved by using a more desirable antenna, and infrared being an inexpensive and widely used type of sensor.

8. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werling (US 6,456,856 B1) in view of Narayanaswamy (US 5,905,467).

Regarding claim 10, Werling discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 9, but does not disclose that the portable radio terminal device is a foldable type including a first housing provided with a first antenna and a second housing provided with a second housing which are hinged together by a hinge part. Narayanaswamy discloses a portable radio terminal device with switchable antennas wherein the device is a foldable type including a first

housing provided with a first antenna and a second housing provided with a second antenna which are hinged together by a hinge part. (Col. 2 line 31-col. 3 line 65) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have antennae in separate housing sections, to aid in antenna diversity for communication.

9. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werling (US 6,456,856 B1) in view of Bowen (US 5,224,151).

Regarding claim 13, Werling discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 9, wherein the detector is an optical sensor sensitive to light intensity change caused by proximity of a hand or head. Bowen discloses a mobile radiotelephone wherein a sensor for detecting human proximity, especially the human head (see Figures 2-6) in order to change functional operation of the phone. (Col. 2 lines 10-61) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Werling to use an optical sensor to detect human proximity so that harmful radiation may be directed away from said tissue, and for optimum antenna use to prevent degradation and prevent the unnecessary use of power that can be saved by using a more desirable antenna, and infrared being an inexpensive and widely used type of sensor.

10. Claims 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Werling (US 6,456,856 B1) in view of Mizoguchi (US 6,678,532).

Regarding claim 14, Werling discloses the portable radio terminal device according to claim 9, but does not disclose a detected impedance change of the antenna. Mizoguchi discloses

a portable radio terminal device wherein a detector detects an impedance change of the antenna. (Col. 10 line 47-Col 12- line 8) Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use an impedance change to detect the presence of human tissue, so that harmful radiation may be directed away from said tissue, and for optimum antenna use to prevent degradation and prevent the unnecessary use of power that can be saved by using a more desirable antenna.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis G. West whose telephone number is 703-308-9298. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 703-308-6739. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Lewis West
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July 26, 2004


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